REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Amendments

The Applicants have amended claims 1-3 and 5-16 to put the claims in a form conforming to USPTO practice. No substantive amendments have been made to the claims and claims 1-16 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a)

Claims 1-4, 7-12 and 15-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bauer *et al.* (US 5,870,765, hereinafter Bauer) in view of Matchefts *et al.* (US 6,330,600 B1, hereinafter Matchefts). The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of these claims.

The present invention discloses a method and arrangement for synchronizing "configuring" data between a source unit (mobile switching center) and a receiving unit (base station). Configuring data is data downloaded to each receiving unit comprising the parameters that enable proper operation of the receiving unit. The configuring data from the source is treated as read-only data by the receiving unit and each receiving unit connected to the source unit should have the same configuring data (Page 6, lines 22-36). The source unit calculates a checksum of the current configuring data stored at the source unit. When the receiving unit connects to the source unit, the source unit downloads the calculated checksums to the receiving unit. The receiving unit compares the source configuring data checksums to a calculated checksum of the receiving unit configuring data. If the checksums are different, the source unit is requested to download a copy of the source's stored configuring data. If the checksums are the same, there is no request. Accordingly, if there is more than one data group, each group has a checksum and the source checksums are compared to the receiving unit's configuring data groups. The groups with mismatched checksums are automatically downloaded to the receiving unit and the matching checksums are ignored. This allows

a source unit to quickly determine if a receiving unit that connects to the source unit has current configuring data.

The Bauer reference appears to disclose a database synchronizer that facilitates computing systems with client-side and server-side applications that share data in a similar database structure, but which do not maintain a continuous connection to a single shared data source (abstract). In the background section, the system discussed is a system involving a portable computer operating as a client to an organization's production system server where the client (portable computer) normally is not connected to the server and must operate autonomously for taking orders or querying the status of orders. The clients that are disclosed are desktop and portable computers (Col. 6 lines 15-16), preferably autonomous personal computers, such as laptop or hand-held computers (Col. 6 lines 41-43). Obviously, the data on each of the unconnected clients will most likely be different than the data on the single shared data source, at least until the data is updated..

Bauer does not teach a method for synchronizing "configuring data", i.e. data controlling the operation of the computerized system itself (Bauer's server and client are compared to the Applicant's source unit and receiving unit, respectively). The kind of data handled by the Bauer reference appears to handle order data, account info etc. In Bauer, there is not a problem when data on the client is different that that of the server, because the system will change the data on both the client and the server on the next hookup. In contrast to Bauer, the present invention downloads system configuration data to the receiving node to make sure all the receiving nodes and the server are operating on the same data; as noted above.

Further, none of the passages cited against step d) of claim 1 teaches or suggests requesting transfer of data in response to detecting a checksum mismatch. In fact, according to column 13, lines 34-42 of Bauer, when checksums do not match, "the client is marked and disabled to await intervention". Also, in direct contrast to the Applicant's invention, during the synchronization process in Bauer, modifications are propagated in both directions (Col. 6, line 60 to Col. 7, line 3, and Col. 7, lines 45-48).

The Applicant's invention requires that the information be propagated in one direction only and that direction is from the source unit to the receiver unit(s).

The Matchefts reference appears to disclose a network management system including a network manager and network elements. Each network element maintains and continually updates configuration information stored in a Management Information Base (MIB) (Col. 3 lines 23-25) while the network manager/server maintains at least portions of configuration info stored in the MIB for each managed network element in a memory (Col. 3, lines 59-63).

As noted above, Bauer discloses a system for handling data, where clients are not normally connected to the server and data may have been modified at either server or client while server and client are disconnected from each other. Similarly, the Matchefts reference teaches the network elements uploading data to the network manager if "a received state variable does not match a stored state variable." (Abstract) Matchefts is cited for downloading source configuring data in mismatched data groups. Updates in Matchefts are performed by either client or server and are propagated to the other side (read, client and server can change data on each other) when a connection is established and eventually from the server to other clients in the system. This is in direct contrast to the present invention as noted above; wherein data that is designated read only is downloaded only one way, from the source unit to the receiving unit. The Applicant respectfully submits that Bauer and Matchefts, either individually or together, do not teach the elements of claim 1. Claim 9 contains limitations analogous to those found in claim 1. The Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1 and 9 and the respective dependent claims.

With regards to claims 8 and 16, in the Detailed Action, a correspondence is drawn between classifying data groups according to the urgency of each data group and the description in Matchefts of classifying communications (generally referred to as traps) from a network element (Col. 4, lines 30-42). Applicant has reviewed this cited portion of Matchefts and finds no reference to classifying data groups according to the urgency of each group. Nor does Bauer say anything about downloading more urgent data prior to less urgent data.

For all of the above reasons, Bauer and Matchefts, taken singly or in combination, fail to teach or suggest However, 1-4, 7-12 and 15-16 as required by 35 U.S.C. §103(a). The Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the application.

Claims 5-6 and 13-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bauer in view of Matchefts and in further view of Nishida *et al.* (US 4,541,091, hereinafter Nishida). The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of this claim.

Nishida appears to disclose a method and apparatus for detecting and correcting code errors. An error word correcting parity word that is generated from a plurality of data words is described. Nishida is cited for teaching a time interval between cycles (Col. 4, lines 49-55). The Applicant reviewed the cited reference and respectfully disagrees with the interpretation of the passage. The passage appears to discuss counting the number of times error detection is carried out. If the number of times the detection occurs exceeds a predetermined value, the error correction operation is inhibited (Col. 4, lines 49-50). In other words the time between cycles is not the determining factor, it is the number of error corrections that take place in a given period of time.
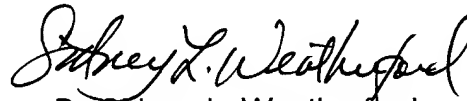
Nishida does not supply the limitation missing from Bauer and Matchefts, that of downloading only one way. Nor, does the Nishida reference teach the limitation of utilizing predetermined time intervals between each cycle. Therefore, Bauer, Matchefts and Nishida either individually or in combination fail to teach or suggest the subject matter of claims 5-6 and 13-14. Additionally, claims 5-6 and 13-14 depend from claims 1 and 9 respectively and contain the same novel limitations. The Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of these rejected claims.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicants believe all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for Claims 1-16.

The Applicants request a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,

By Sidney L. Weatherford
Registration No. 45,602
Ericsson Patent Counsel

Ericsson Inc.
6300 Legacy Drive
M/S EVR 1-C-11
Plano, TX 75024
Phone: 972-583-8656
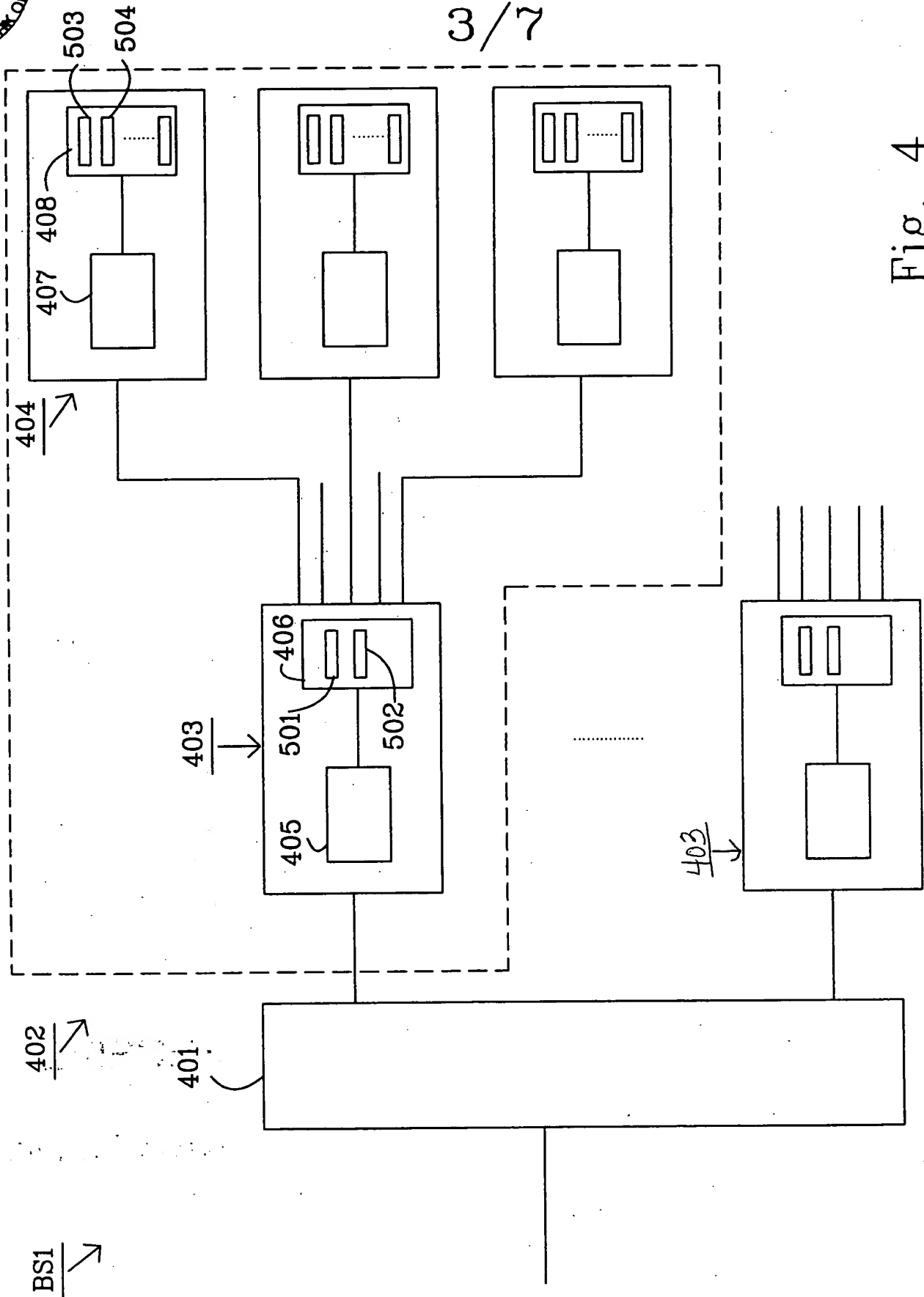Fax: 972-583-7864
sidney.weatherford@ericsson.com

Fig. 4